

HOUSE RESOLUTION 219

By Littleton

A RESOLUTION to recognize Tennsco on the occasion of its sixtieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should recognize those historic Tennessee businesses that have a long-standing commitment to providing exceptional service to their customers; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable entity is Tennsco of Dickson, which celebrates its sixtieth anniversary this year, a commendable milestone for this important Tennessee business; and

WHEREAS, Tennsco founder Lester Speyer established and grew a successful manufacturing operation in Chicago after serving as a pilot in World War II; desiring to expand, he searched for a manufacturing location that he could easily reach in his private plane and in his search found the shuttered KF Kline plant in Dickson; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, Lester Speyer established Tennsco, short for Tennessee Steel Company, on East Broad Street with only ten employees; though the company struggled to find its footing during the first decade of operation, Mr. Speyer had confidence in himself and his team, and the company persevered; and

WHEREAS, today, Tennsco, the largest private employer in Dickson County, makes steel shelving, cabinets, lockers, shop equipment, library bookstacks, and filing solutions, among other products; the operation has grown to 715 employees and from a single facility to nine manufacturing plants and distribution facilities spanning over 1.8 million square feet; and

WHEREAS, Tennsco is a leading U.S. manufacturer of steel storage products, selling its wares across America, Canada, and Mexico; the company provides storage solutions for a variety of markets, including material handling, office, athletic, medical, automotive, electronics, and information technology; and

WHEREAS, Lester Speyer's son, Stuart Speyer, currently serves as the president of Tennsco; he came on board in 1980 to help oversee operations and grow the business, and since that time, his leadership and influence have had a profound impact on the company; and

WHEREAS, President Speyer attributes much of Tennsco's success to its innovative and tenacious employees and its ability to competitively manufacture a broad array of industrial-grade products; he attributes the company's longevity to its acquisition of various product lines and new designs for products, including taking over locker manufacturing from Andrew Wilson Co. and library bookstacks production from Estey; and

WHEREAS, Tennsco is known in Dickson County for being a good corporate citizen; in addition to supporting numerous charitable causes, the company has donated shelving and bookstacks to the Dickson and Nashville public libraries, built and donated a community center for Dickson County that includes softball fields and tennis courts, and also donated the land and was the primary financial donor for a brand new animal shelter for the local Humane Society and animal control; and

WHEREAS, in this, Tennsco's sixtieth year of operation, the business remains true to Lester Speyer's vision of integrity, philanthropy, and quality products; and

WHEREAS, for six decades, Tennsco has been essential to the economy of Dickson County and a model business in the Volunteer State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we congratulate the owners, management, and employees of Tennsco on sixty years of operation, wishing the iconic Tennessee business much continued success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.